

Message Text

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PAGE 01 LOUREN 00889 260951Z

13

ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 IO-14 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03

SS-20 USIA-15 DRC-01 /136 W
----- 090955

R 260835Z DEC 73

FM AMCONSUL LOURENCO MARQUES

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2276

INFO AMEMBASSY BLANTYRE

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMCONSUL LUANDA

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

USUN NEW YORK 146

C O N F I D E N T I A L LOURENCO MARQUES 0889

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINS, MZ

SUBJECT: TREATMENT OF RETURNED MOZAMBICANS BY
PORTUGUESE

REF: LOURENCO MARQUES 768

1. BECOMING CLEAR FROM PRESS EMPHASIS PLACED ON INTERVIEWS WITH EX-FRELIMO MEMBERS WHO HAVE TURNED THEMSELVES IN RECENTLY, THAT PORTUGUESE ARE SEEKING TAKE ADVANTAGE OF REPORTED DISSATISFACTION WITHIN FRELIMO TO ENTICE AS MANY LOST SHEEP BACK INTO THE FOLD AS POSSIBLE. FROM MY OWN MEETINGS WITH EX-FRELIMO MEMBERS, I CAN CONFIRM THAT THEY ARE BEING TREATED CONSIDERATELY.

2. IN THIS CONTEXT IT IS ALMOST CERTAIN THAT MOZAMBICANS WHOSE ONLY OFFENCE HAS BEEN THAT THEY LEFT THE COUNTRY ILLEGALLY WOULD NOT BE MOLESTED ON THEIR RETURN TO
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PAGE 02 LOUREN 00889 260951Z

MOZAMBIQUE PROVIDED THEY REFRAIN FROM ENGAGING IN WHAT

PORTUGUESE WOULD CONSIDER SUBVERSIVE OR UNDESIRABLE
POLITICAL ACTIVITY.

3. SUBJECT CAME UP DURING A TALK WITH GOVERNOR GENERAL
PIMENTEL DOS SANTOS ON DECEMBER 21 IN WHICH HE DISCUSSED
URGENT NEED FOR TRAINED AFRICAN PERSONNEL TO TAKE ADVAN-
TAGE OF INCREASING OPPORTUNITIES OPENING UP FOR THEM IN
GOVERNMENT AND PRIVATE INDUSTRY. I MENTIONED WE HAD RE-
CEIVED INQUIRIES IN WASHINGTON FROM VARIOUS MOZAMBICANS
STUDYING OR WORKING IN UNITED STATES EXPRESSING INTEREST
IN RETURNING TO THEIR HOMELAND BUT WONDERING IF THEY WOULD
BE SUBJECTING THEMSELVES TO PROSECUTION FOR PAST MISTAKES
(SUCH AS LEAVING COUNTRY WITHOUT PROPER DOCUMENTATION).
GOVERNOR GENERAL SAID THAT PORTUGUESE WOULD BE GENEROUS
ON THESE MATTERS AS WITNESS THEIR TREATMENT OF EX-FRELIMO
DEFECTORS AND HE ASSURED ME THAT RETURNEES WOULD BE WELL
TREATED AS LONG AS THEY REFRAIN FROM ILLEGAL ACTIVITIES.
HE DID NOT, HOWEVER, INDICATE WHETHER HE WOULD GIVE SUCH
ASSURANCES IN PUBLIC STATEMENT; AND I DID NOT PRESS THE
POINT.
VAN OSS

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